



General Assembly

February Session, 2010

**Amendment**

LCO No. 5474

**\*SB0017505474HDO\***

Offered by:

REP. FRITZ, 90<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
REP. ESTY, 103<sup>rd</sup> Dist.  
REP. NARDELLO, 89<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
SEN. CALIGIURI, 16<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
SEN. GAFFEY, 13<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
SEN. KANE, 32<sup>nd</sup> Dist.

REP. CONROY, 105<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
REP. BERGER, 73<sup>rd</sup> Dist.  
SEN. LEBEAU, 3<sup>rd</sup> Dist.  
REP. ALBERTS, 50<sup>th</sup> Dist.  
SEN. FRANTZ, 36<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 175

File No. 522

Cal. No. 396

(As Amended)

**"AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE CONNECTICUT  
COMPETITIVENESS COUNCIL."**

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the  
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. Section 32-56 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

5 (a) In view of the contemplated reduction in defense expenditures  
6 by the federal government and the fact that Connecticut ranks first in  
7 the nation on a per capita basis in defense contracts awarded, the  
8 department shall engage special agent technologists who shall take  
9 steps to assist medium and small manufacturers to find solutions for

10 the problems related to defense conversion and in executing  
11 adaptation to new technologies. Such assistance shall be made  
12 available to medium-sized and small companies which lack sufficient  
13 resources to keep abreast of new technologies in fields allied to their  
14 own or in entering new markets not oriented to defense production.

15 (b) It is found and declared that Connecticut ranks very high among  
16 the states on a per capita basis in the amounts of prime defense  
17 contracts awarded; that the economies of many areas in the state and  
18 the employment opportunities offered by many businesses in the state  
19 are heavily defense-dependent and would suffer severe adverse  
20 impacts in the event of prime defense contract cutbacks or major  
21 aerospace or defense plant closures; that, in the event that defense-  
22 dependent areas or businesses in the state were severely impacted by a  
23 prime defense contract cutback or major aerospace or defense plant  
24 closure, there would be a serious need for non-defense-related  
25 industrial and commercial development and activity in such areas or  
26 by such businesses to provide and maintain employment and tax  
27 revenues; that private and public capital investment in the  
28 construction, renovation, and expansion of nondefense manufacturing  
29 and other industrial facilities will best contribute to maintaining  
30 employment and the existing tax base and to the development of a  
31 wider-based and more balanced economy in the state; and that the tax  
32 and other financial incentives provided by this section to encourage  
33 such public and private investment in businesses and municipalities  
34 severely impacted by prime defense contract cutbacks, are important  
35 and necessary applications of the resources of the state in the exercise  
36 of its responsibility to preserve the health, safety and general welfare  
37 in the state of its people; and therefore the necessity, in the public  
38 interest and for the public benefit and good, of the provisions of this  
39 section is hereby declared as a matter of legislative determination.

40 (c) The commissioner may determine that the economy of a  
41 municipality has been severely impacted by a prime defense contract  
42 cutback or major aerospace or defense plant closure with not less than  
43 eight hundred employees. The commissioner shall make such a

44 determination only after a public hearing, at which hearing  
45 information shall be submitted to support the findings required by this  
46 section.

47 (d) (1) In determining that a municipality has been severely  
48 impacted by a prime defense contract cutback or major aerospace or  
49 defense plant closure with not less than eight hundred employees the  
50 commissioner shall find that (A) one or more businesses in the  
51 municipality has experienced a cancellation of one or more prime  
52 defense contracts or major aerospace or defense plant closure with not  
53 less than eight hundred employees, or subcontracts entered into in  
54 connection with prime defense contracts, or a significant reduction in  
55 prime defense contract or related subcontract awards or orders; (B)  
56 such prime defense contract cutback or major aerospace or defense  
57 plant closure has caused or will cause a loss of employment  
58 opportunities in the municipality; (C) such prime defense contract or  
59 major aerospace or defense plant closure cutback has caused or will  
60 cause a severe adverse impact in the municipality. In making such  
61 findings the commissioner may consider the extent to which the  
62 businesses in the municipality are, or were at the period in time before  
63 the prime defense contract cutback or major aerospace or defense plant  
64 closure occurred, dependent on prime defense contracts or on  
65 subcontracts related to such prime defense contracts or major  
66 aerospace or defense plant closures; the extent to which one or more  
67 prime defense contractors in the municipality has or plans to reduce its  
68 work force or the amount of defense subcontract awards or orders  
69 which would be performed by businesses in the municipality; the  
70 extent to which the unemployed in the municipality are or were  
71 defense workers with specialized skills not easily transferable to other  
72 industries; the existence of abandoned or underutilized defense-related  
73 manufacturing facilities in the municipality; and any other factors  
74 which the commissioner deems relevant to such finding. (2) The  
75 commissioner's determination that a municipality is severely impacted  
76 by a prime defense contract cutback or major aerospace or defense  
77 plant closure shall be effective for two years from the date of the

78 decision of the commissioner. The commissioner may renew such  
79 determination for two additional two-year periods following a public  
80 hearing and upon making the findings required by this subsection.  
81 Notwithstanding the provisions of this subdivision, if (A) a military  
82 installation of the United States Department of Defense at which  
83 military vehicle engines were produced is located in any such  
84 municipality, (B) the military installation is closed pursuant to 10 USC  
85 2687, and (C) the Department of Defense plans to convey the site of  
86 said installation to said municipality, the determination by the  
87 commissioner that the municipality is severely impacted by a prime  
88 defense contract cutback or major aerospace or defense plant closure  
89 shall remain effective until such conveyance and any environmental  
90 remediation of the site are completed or until such time as the plant  
91 has been reoccupied by another business, and such determination may  
92 be renewed for a period not exceeding two years.

93 (e) Any business facility located in a municipality declared by the  
94 commissioner to be severely impacted by a prime defense contract  
95 cutback or major aerospace or defense plant closure pursuant to  
96 subsection (c) of this section, which facility would be a "manufacturing  
97 facility", as defined in subsection (d) of section 32-9p, but for the fact  
98 that the facility is not in a "distressed municipality", as defined in  
99 subsection (b) of section 32-9p, will be deemed a manufacturing facility  
100 for the purposes of sections 32-9p to 32-9s, inclusive, section 12-217e,  
101 and subdivisions (59) and (60) of section 12-81, if the purpose of the  
102 construction, expansion, renovation or acquisition of such facility is  
103 not dependent on prime defense contracts or related subcontracts. The  
104 provisions of this section shall apply to a business facility located in a  
105 building that was vacant on July 1, 1998, and was formerly used for  
106 defense manufacturing or as a major aerospace or defense plant.

107 (f) Any municipality declared by the commissioner to be severely  
108 impacted by a prime defense contract cutback or major aerospace or  
109 defense plant closure will be deemed a distressed municipality under  
110 sections 8-190 and 8-195 for the purpose of assisting non-defense-  
111 dependent projects.

112       Sec. 2. (*Effective from passage*) Notwithstanding the provisions of  
 113       subparagraph (C) of subdivision (59) of section 12-81 of the general  
 114       statutes, any person otherwise eligible for a 2009 grand list exemption  
 115       pursuant to subdivision (59) of said section 12-81 in the town of  
 116       Seymour, except that such person failed to file the required exemption  
 117       application within the time period prescribed, shall be regarded as  
 118       having filed said application in a timely manner if such person files  
 119       said application not later than thirty days after the effective date of this  
 120       section, and pays the late filing fee pursuant to section 12-81k of the  
 121       general statutes. Upon confirmation of the receipt of such fee and  
 122       verification of the exemption eligibility of the machinery and  
 123       equipment included in such application, the assessor shall approve the  
 124       exemption for such property. If taxes have been paid on the property  
 125       for which such exemption is approved, the town of Torrington shall  
 126       reimburse such person in an amount equal to the amount by which  
 127       such taxes exceed the taxes payable if the application had been filed in  
 128       a timely manner. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (c) of  
 129       section 12-94b of the general statutes and section 12-94e of the general  
 130       statutes, the assessor of the town of Seymour may submit such  
 131       approved exemption application to the Secretary of the Office of Policy  
 132       and Management together with a request for reimbursement of the tax  
 133       loss resulting from such exemption. Subject to the secretary's review  
 134       and approval of such exemption, such reimbursement shall be  
 135       included in the next certification the secretary makes to the  
 136       Comptroller under the provisions of section 12-94b of the general  
 137       statutes."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	32-56
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section